## STATE OF INDIANA

Mitchell E. Daniels Jr., Governor

## **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION**

Commissioner's Office

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## For immediate release

## State Surplus Property Returns to Local Tax Rolls

INDIANAPOLIS (November 4, 2011) – Nearly 3,000 acres owned by the state of Indiana will soon return to county tax rolls when the Indiana Department of Administration sells surplus property in Porter, LaPorte, Madison and Marion counties.

The predominant portion of the parcels were once a part of the Department of Correction's agricultural operations but have been leased to private farmers as agricultural ground since DOC ceased its farming operations. With the value of farm ground reaching all-time highs, the state has determined that the sale of the property would provide a greater benefit to state and local governments as taxable property. Future use of those properties is likely to remain agricultural due to zoning and rural locations.

The counties and the acres for sale include:

- Porter County 1,291 acres
- LaPorte County 758 acres
- Madison County 851 acres
- Marion County 40.1 acres

"The sale of these surplus parcels will benefit local governments that will see new tax revenue. Under private ownership, these properties may contribute to an increased county assessed valuation and an expansion of the tax base upon which local property tax rates are determined," said Indiana Department of Administration Commissioner Robert D. Wynkoop. "Although the immediate impact is not known, each new acre on the tax rolls potentially contributes to lower local tax rates for property owners."

The acreage for sale in Porter, LaPorte and Madison counties will be divided into multiple parcels. All sales will be by public auction in early 2012. For more information, go to the Indiana Department of Administration Surplus Property web page at <a href="http://www.in.gov/idoa/surplus">http://www.in.gov/idoa/surplus</a> or contact Michael Kuehl, Colliers International Indiana Region, 317-663-6079.

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